

TATTERSALL'S CLUB

Magazine

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The Chairman does the Honors



THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. John Hickey) presides at the ceremony of presentation after the race at Randwick for Tattersall's Club Gold Cup

Mr. W. T. Rayner, owner of the winner, Blazeaway, is holding the Gold Cup and the Chairman is congratulating the winning jockey (A. Clarke). Behind the Chairman is the Secretary, Mr. David Dawson.

-Courtesy "Sun" Newspaper.



Established 14th May, 1858

TATTERSALL'S CLUB

Sydney

'Phone: BM 6111

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ERNEST HILLIER made his first appearance at the club's Randwick meeting since returning from overseas. While he was in England his filly, Brimses won The Flight Stakes, the Thousand Guineas at Caulfield and was third in the V.R.C. Oaks, won by Evening Peal. Ernest saw the English Derby, among other races, and summed up "Quality of horseflesh first-rate; racing amenities not comparable with Australian."

REMEMBER Maude Fane, musical comedy star of other seasons? John T. Jennings met at the Hydro-Majestic, Medlow Bath, her niece, Mrs. Bradshaw, wife of the manager. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings spent the festive season at the Hydro-Majestic.

CLUB STORY

As the barrier went up a rangy chestnut jumped to the front and led into the straight by several lengths. Then his stride shortened and before the winning post was reached half the field had "I thought he'd passed him. win easily," Tom," said a friend of the trainer. "No," said Tom, "I don't think he'll ever win, he's too much like a line." "Like a line, what do you mean?" "Well," said the trainer, "He's got plenty of length but no breath."

LES HARRISON returned singing the praises of Leeton and its soldiers' club.

★ ★

FROM Harry Chaplin, on an overseas tour: "I told French people we had a ground in Melbourne with a 100,000 capacity, but they simply shrugged their disbelief. The shopping area of Marseilles is full of fine stores and beautiful articles. We spent a pleasant hour with the apes on Gibraltar.

"On ship was plenty of incident. A man became demented and had to be confined. Stowaways were run to earth, meaning unthought of hiding places, and finally the vessel was stuck for several hours on the Goodwin Sands. Happy Christmas. New Year Wishes to fellow club members."

EDITORIAL: BACK TO WORK

The festive season being over, thoughts must be turned to toil and the trials that go to make everyday life worth living. There is never so dull a day, a partnership or even a world at large, in which interruption and irritation never enter.

The things that stir us, move us to disappointment some of the time, the anxieties and antipathies throwing our easy-going routine into ferment, all are as essential biologically, as are the blessings of contentment, the compensations in cash and in kind.

A philisophy of life is just as important as is a pattern of life. The happiest are those who adjust themselves mentally to the vicissitudes, believing that no one can be on the receiving end all the time.

There is nothing mysterious about the ebb and the flow as a natural law, and the surrenders we make involuntarily, balanced by the gains, are processes over which man in the individual or the mass has little or no control.

There is only one thing of which we may be certain, as applied to the multitude: nothing without labor. Easy money is for the lucky few, so-called. Do not envy them over much. They have a pay-out, too.

COCKTAIL PARTY

THE CLUB'S Christmas cocktail party was in the matter of attendance "standing room only," but it was acknowledged as being all the better for that The committee's purpose was served in bringing together members and their wives in the family spirit.

Particularly satisfactory was the presence of so many ladies. A daily newspaper commented: "They gave the occasion a charm and a grace which an exclusively male company seems never able to muster." So me on e cracked: "Reminded one of the ladies' stand at Randwick on Derby Day. Glamour there was in plenty."

The company was received by the Chairman (John Hickey) and Mrs. Hickey and the Treasurer (John Roles) and Mrs. Roles.

Wives were overheard saying how greatly they enjoyed the club's dinner dances. These function are designed to bring together members and their families and the friends of families in the happiest circumstances.

* *

W. I. (BILL) HILL had gone to the Gap for a little calm reflection, as he told the story. There he was confronted with a skeleton. "What are you doing here?" the surprised woolbroker asked. "I've come to throw myself over," the skeleton replied quietly. "Bill: Then why don't you do it?" Skeleton: "I haven't got the guts."

GORDON NAGEL mentioned on Carrington Stakes day that Thunder God (Ajax-Volley), which carried his colours at Randwick, was now standing at his property at Cunnamulla (Q.), and had sired many fine foals; the latest, a colt from Jenny Lind. This mare won for him at Randwick.

EDWIN PENFOLD took his car with him on an extensive overseas tour. He was thus enabled to see much in little time of countries of which previously he had only touched the fringe.

* *

CHAIRMAN Harry Tancred and his fellow committeemen of Sydney Turf Club were startled somewhat recently to hear everybody singing their praises. It sounded unreal, their cause was that show of enterprise which presented to Sydney race-goers the visiting international jockeys with colours up.

* *

THAT was the best system. What racegoers wanted to see mainly were: (1) the jockeys themselves; (2) their seat and riding style. Comparisons were made, but regular race-goers agreed that each of the internations was a class horseman.

* *

FINALLY, presentation by the S.T.C. Chairman of a souvenir to each visitor was a graceful act calculated to impress all that Australian sportsmanship is more than a byword.

CONGRATULATIONS

Club member E. E. Warren M.L.C. was awarded the C.M.G. in the New Year's honors list.

Allen Fairhall, given the portfolios of Interior and Works in the new Commonwealth Cabinet, is a member of this club.

AULD Acquaintance: W. W. Hill was conversing at Randwick recently with R.U. contemporaries: Dr. Howard Bullock (University) and Joe McMahon (South Sydney). Mr. Hill and Dr. Bullock were in the N.S.W. XV which played Queensland in 1906. Another member was Dally Messenger.

S.T.C. Secretary Lachal and Percy King could have a few hours close chat, agreeing all the time. They are Australian Rules addicts; "the game in which behinds are kicked throughout" (as a R.U. follower put it.

ARNOLD TANCRED'S article on the South Africans' style of play, published recently in the magazine, had a wide-reading public in this club. Some were for Arnold and others against him.

LEN PALFREYMAN, who played in the forwards for Australia against the South Africans in Australia, said our strategy to topple the Springboks should be to outspeed them.

WHAT would Ken Ranger wish if he were not a leviathan bookmaker? Some might guess: Owner of a Melbourne Cup winner. Those who should know gay Ken's ambition, if he started life again, would be to keep wickets for Australia.

GOING overseas: Frank Goldberg (Honolulu), Allen Walker, M. G. Cooke, Roy Nutt (U.S., U.K. and Continent), R. J. Murphy (U.S.).

CONDOLENCES

The sympathy of members goes to Ray Grice on the death of his wife on January 12. She will be missed sadly by her husband, their family and relatives and a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Grice took a lively interest in sporting affairs and was a constant and appreciative reader of this magazine.

William Nash, elected 9/11/53, died 3/1/56. We extend to his family our sincere sympathy.

CLUBMAN'S CORNER

NOBODY credits W. C. (Bill) Allen or Arthur McCamley with stagecraft. Thus it was that the audience made up of guests at a festive season party in the Mosman home of the Allens gasped with astonishment as they strutted their stuff with declamatory power.



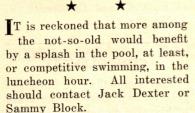
TRUE, the star of the play was Bill's wife. She shaded them, not somewhat, but considerably; still the pair of troupers earned the several recalls accorded them.



Jack ROBINSON'S son flies planes over the oceans. Recently Jack arranged to have the young man post back copies of South American newspapers for passing on to a Sydney journalist.



JACK settled down to have a good read before parting with the newspapers. They were printed in Spanish. Jack hoped the captions appearing under studies of glamorous Latin cuties told the truth, the whole truth and nohing but the truth.





TATTERSALL'S Club had in December a distinguished guest—a Victoria Cross winner from a British Commonwealth country overseas. He expressed a wish for no publicity. That was honoured by the club; so, as far as the newspapers were concerned, he left as he arrived; unannounced. He carried away a high opinion of the club.

Happy Birthday Greetings

An old greeting, but ever new: Good health, good luck and a toast to you!

Though your days be many or, maybe, few, what else may fail you, what else you rue, count us among the tried and the true.

FEBRUARY		W. A. Casben		J. A. Stevenson F. Fitzpatrick	
1	W. T. Wood	16 M. D. McDon-	4 Roy Hendy, C.M.G.	17	G. A. Pratten
2	A. V. Miller P. M. Wood-	ald John English	W. L. Winter Arthur	18	P. J. Ratcliffe H. R. Leeder
	ward	E. D. Forrest	McNaughton		R. B. Porter John Marron
3	R. A. Pedling-	T. T. Cook 17 W. W. Rogers	5 F. J. Carberry I. M. Davis		R. W. C.
	R. J. Bartley	K. B. Higgins G. M. Waring	J. R. Stallwood 6 A. A. Ritchie	20	Anderson L. R. Harrison
4	A. A. Luciano T. F. Wilkie	18 H. Israel	V. C. Bear		R. C. Beveridge Dr. A. R.
5	Dr. R. J. Kris- tenson	H. A. Kelly C. T. Spinks	Vincent Carroll J. A. Fraser		Colwell
	Bruce Chiene J. D. Kelaher	19 J. D. Hath- away	P. J. Monahan Dr. K. S. Rich-		Jack Morris N. A. L. Taylor
	A. E. Orbell	20 A. J. Howarth	ardson		C. Brelaz E. L. Callaway
6	W. A. Grainger C. O. Cham-	John Torpy A. L. McCauley	7 M. E. Hazell G. W. Mills	22	Jack Allen
Ü	bers	A. L. McCauley R. W. Sharpe 21 C. E. Fortescue	E. R. Theodore J. D. Mullan		J. A. Driscoll E. I. Morgan
	T. S. Prescott Harry Plant	A. G. Allen	8 Judge Eric	22	E. J. Morgan C. S. Tidmarsh T. A. Greaves
	P. G. Goldstein J. D. Hillier	22 Eric Steel G. W. Noe	Clegg 9 M. Zukerman		J. L. Monaro
7	Con Murray	23 P. A. Shields 24 J. W. G. Muir	L. K. Martin I. R. Paull		S. T. Tucker M. O. Barnett
8	A. J. M. Kelly T. O. Cum-	W. S. Newton	K. H. Quinnell		J. R. Lewis E. J. Fletcher
	mings G. B. Cullen	H. Coy 25 G. M. Nacard	L. S. Maddrell 10 A. G. Collins		Mark W.
_	T. O. Ziems	N. H. Bishop W. A. McFad-	W. D. Wyatt Max Pemberton		Whitby N. B. Thomp-
9	A. E. Crutten- den	den	J. H. Pepper C. C. Henrys		son J. H. Farrar
10	H. Bonomini R. C. Brown	26 S. C. Canfield P. H. V.	11 J. H. E. Nathan	26	I. A. Roles
	M. O. Larkins	Holmes	A. A. Ray Ronald Bower-		M. Frank Albert S. Goldberg
	P. N. Roach	27 Keith Holmes H. L. Norton	man		S. J. Hart J. N. Russell
12	W. E. Black J. F. McIner-	28 S. Goldhill	F. Vockler, Snr. M. Stevens		R. J. Want
	ney S. N. Carter	J. K. Monro N. Wheeler	12 A. W. Arm- strong	27	S. N. Allen J. A. Sullivan
13	H. M. Norton	V. L. Kirby W. T. Kirk	C. T. King	20	A. W. Lander G. J. C. Moore
	A. M. Bolot	M. Gulson	13 L. B. Isaacs H. E. Herman		C. J. Johnson
15	W. T. Connelly Colin Bowes	F. L. Bowes 29 P. J. Gibson	14 G. W. Savage J. P. O'Neill	30	G. Y. Seymour J. L. McDer-
			H. K. Gayfer		mott G. R. Bryden
1	A. J. Boulton	RCH G. H. Routley	15 Ian Jacobson F. J. Williams		Harry Brooks
1	W. A. G. Purss	2 W. H. Lannen	16 S. A. Willmott H. B. Jones		S. Rubensohn
	A. J. Keeling	N. J. Storey	II. D. Jones		

Members are invited to notify the Secretary of the date of their Birthday.

TAIL OF THE 'ROO

THE MAILEY-TAYLOR testimonial match recalled to a club member gallant stands made by Mailey and Oldfield when Australian wickets fell cheaply. One such occasion inspired a bard in the 1920's:

Whoe'er a man back, Old England or us, Or whether he sit on the rail, he Should not count his chickens before they are hatched, While Australia has Oldfield and Mailey.

The wickets are falling like wheat in the hail,
And Collins himself,
though he fail, he
Can still be called "Lucky,"
though losing the toss,
While Australia has Oldfield and Mailey.

THE WEATHER GOD WAS KIND TO US

Sunshine Double Drawn by Club

NOT in many seasons had the weather changed mood so opportunely for a Tattersall's Club meeting. The A.J.C. had copped more than its share previously and prospects were dismal; then Jupiter Pluvius unaccountably put away his watering can, leaving the stage centre to Old Sol to lavish his benefactions.

THIS TWO-DAY'S meeting served to remind some of our new members, as well as many of the public, of the age of Tattersall's Club. Founded in 1858, with a motto of "Honour and Friendship", the club's first cup was raced for in 1868, and its Carrington Stakes, first leg of the big double, dates back to 1886.

In two years the club will hoist the century.

As in other years, the official luncheon on each day provided a means of bringing among the committee and members, guests from the A.J.C. and other sporting clubs. They were welcomed by the Chairman (John Hickey) and the Treasurer (John Roles).

Speechmaking was confined to the Chairman's proposing the loyal toast and his brief salutation: "Happy new year to all."

The A.J.C. was represented officially at luncheon on both days by members of its committee.

The Carrington Stakes, main race of the first day, has claimed notable performers, including Bernbrook, carrying 9.6 in 1945. Greenline carried 10.6 into third place in 1929 and won with 10.5 in 1931. Gay Vista, weighted at 9.13 at the last meeting, won with 8.8 in 1954.

Bob Carter, who had Royal Stream (7.6) running in his colours, gave out: "You have a true trier, but an in-and-out performer."

NEVILLE and Harold Bishop told everybody that they favoured the chances of their candidate, Lindbergh (8.9) after his sterling second in the Villiers. Harold was seeking "fives" along the rails before the start.

Finest looking thoroughbred in the race was Knave, who

The crowd's reaction to a break from dismal conditions to midsummer skies of blue was to rush out of doors in the gay mood of the season and to share in the sporting fare of which the club's two-days' meeting was the main attraction.

would need a rickshaw to go that far."

Frank Watts, who returned from an overseas tour, talked of racecourses he had visited and racehorses he had seen, including Nashua, in the U.S. This £500,000 horse he described as "not altogether a good-looker, but a long strider and all quality."

Tom Roche, another world tourist, told of an experience in

Spotlight on the Personality Parade

Maurice McCarten had fit as a fiddle, but the horse failed to run up to expectations. He may need time to strike his best form.

Pat Crennan and Syd White maintained a quiet confidence as to the chance of Compound, while Apple Bay's prospects were rated highly by its owners D. Chrystal, D. Chrystal, Jr., and George Ryder. H. V. Cooper was reputed to feel that none would go better than Plato.

NOBODY begrudged the prize to the Bishop brothers on the score of good sportsmanship.

Dave D a wson somewhat rocked Joe Rich at the official luncheon on Saturday by responding to Joe's invitation to inspect the Semaphore bar near the Allison Road entrance. "I

Germany. He had entered a beerhouse in a small town for a refresher. When word got around that he was an Australian, the younger generation gave him a good time.

Percy Oatley was another who had seen the world. He summed up: "English thoroughbreds are supreme, but racing amenities are not comparable with those of Randwick."

Ted Norton trusted a good deal to luck, but fared better in pickin' 'em than others with tips cluttering up their pockets.

Committeeman Alf Collins, always attracted to cricketers, had the Bedser twins as companions, while Committeeman George Chiene was with his old pal Bert Bowser. Bert could recall his days as a professional runner when he could have given some of the modern horses a start.



-Photo Courtesy "Sun"

FINISH OF THE CARRINGTON STAKES: Lindbergh, owned by N. H. and H. W. Bishop, winning by three-quarters of a length from Apple Bay, owned by D. Chrystal, D. Chrystal, Jr., with Spearby, running for the executors of the estate of the late V. S. Arnold, one and a half lengths away third. Time: 1.10-7/10.

RARNEY FAY caught the eye in an all-white outfit as he swept by to attend the official luncheon.

Phil Roach was another in the sartorial line-up, sporting Honolulu model.

Adolph Basser was wished "happy voyage" on his forthcoming tour overseas. He was also congratulated on having been invested with the C.B.E., an honour richly deserved for his public service and practical acts of charity.

Committeeman Bill Sellen returned hospitality to old hosts, Garry Fitzpatrick and Brian O'Donnell, president and secretary respectively of Newcastle Tattersall's Club.

Committeeman F. J. Carberry had a happy obligation on Cup day; escort to a nice girl, his daughter.

One of the members, who must be nameless, boasted of having "peeled a few off the roll of a fellow club-member," Committeemen Ernie Vandenburg. This wag added: "Sort of keeping the money in the family."

There is usually a dream horse, but this one tipped by George Tancred to inquiring members came true: Fairy Dream.

Percy King took out the double with that and Lovely Day.

John O'Riordan, John Barton and Bill McIver got square on Regal Forest up to that race.

RILL MULLIGAN, formerly one of Randwick's biggest bookmakers, was observed looking reflectively into the ring and thinking-what?

According to report, Committeeman Arthur Miller showed surer form in potting them on the table than in picking them on the course. Committeeman Donald Wilson was declaring a dividend at one stage.

Johnny Ruthven remembered:

He was associated with the Johnny Walker firm 52 years 58 days.

Toasting after the pay-out and remembering there's always the last on which to recover: Geoff Harris, Clyde Cooley, John Lindsay and R. F. Cox (lastnamed from overseas).

The Chairman and his committeemen, while entering into the sociality of both days, were at call officially at any time by Dave Dawson, on whom fell mostly the duties of organisation and direction.

So another year closed in our club's transactions on a happy note: "To our next merry meeting!"

"DREAMY JOE"

BEFORE the Carrington Stakes was run at this club's meeting in 1915, Club member Len Haley, owner of Ickle Lass, dreamed of the race and saw a horse fall, allowing Ickle Lass to push through and win. In the actual race the dream was fulfilled.

"Peter Persnurkus," a character in Sydney "Sun's" column of the time, "The Motion Picture Show," wrote a number of verses commencing:

Young Joseph was a dreamer who dreamed in days of old,

Any many a wondrous screamer about his dreams was told. He kept on dreaming daily of things that came to pass, And so does Mr. Haley, who won with Ickle Lass.

Though Haley dream of horses and Joseph dreamed of kine, The same prophetic forces in both of them combine. Be sure this dreaming game is a useful thing to know-Whatever Haley's name is, be should be christened Joe.

Club's Cup Carnival

REVIEW OF THE RACING

By A. B. GRAY

Annual race meeting of Tattersall's Club at Randwick held over the New Year week-end was favoured by delightful and bracing midsummer weather which helped to attract big attendances. On Cup day 42,500 filled the enclosures. The main double, Carrington Stakes and Tattersall's Club Gold Cup, was won by well-fancied Lindbergh and Blaze-away respectively.

LINDBERGH, now a 4-years-old, was a crack 2-years-old when he won £11,520 in stakes, main successes being in the Breeders' Plate and the A.J.C. Sires' Produce and Champagne Stakes. He is raced by club members N. H. and H. W. Bishop, and is trained at Randwick by Harry Darwon, also a club member.

Lindbergh has struck a purple patch of form this mid-season and is living up to the reputation he enjoyed in his initial racing year. There are fewer better sprinters than this 4-year-old which was ridden with sound judgment by Tom Mullane, pilot of Lindbergh in his first race success—A.J.C. Breeders' Plate.

Lindbergh started favorite for the Carrington Stakes in a keen betting race and beat Apple Bay and Spearby without undue ex-

Scratchings reduced Tattersall's Cup field to seven runners which was a bit disappointing seeing the Club provided a £2,000 stake, plus a £300 trophy. However, as six of the seven had good support with the 1954 A.J.C. Derby winner Prince Delville favorite, it was considered an open contest.

Every Chance

Prince Delville had every chance but was easily beaten into third place by Blazeaway and Grand Stream. The Cup winner had been a model of consistency but he was an unknown quantity at a mile and a half which resulted in two runners being prefered to him in betting.

With his big pull in the weights—he had 7.3 to carry or three pound's above the limit—

he ran right away over the final furlong and had a conclusive victory. A. Clarke, who is apprenticed to Rosebery trainer Fred Hood, handled the winner with skill and judgment. He also had been the jockey when Blazeaway won at three of his four prior starts and was a close second at the other outing.

Blazeaway is raced by W. T. Rayner, a Mudgee grazier, and is prepared at Rosebery by Stan Wheeler, one of the younger school of horse trainers. Mr. Rayner bred Blazeaway, also Rillsdale and Durabay. All three are from Bay Ann. As they have won 32 races among them, Bay Ann has proved a successful brood mare. Wheeler trains the three horses.

Double Success

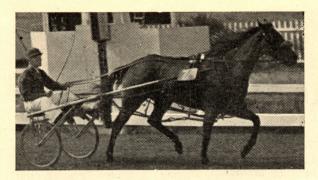
A feature of the annual race meeting was the double success of Troy—Juvenile Maiden and Nursery Handicap. The colt is the first of the progeny of Achilles to win a race but that former top-class miler is in his first season only so far as his racing stock are concerned.

Troy is raced by T. L. Baillieu, a A.J.C. committeeman, and is trained at Randwick by Frank McGrath whose 16 years' old apprentice Bernie Howlett had the mount on each occasion. Howlett hasn't had many chances but he made the most of them on Troy.



-Photo Courtesy "Sun"

FINISH OF TATTERSALL'S GOLD CUP: W. T. Rayner's Blazeaway winning by two lengths from Grand Stream, owned by D. Chrystal, with Prince Delville, carrying the colours of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bradshaw, two lengths away third. Time: 2.32-2/5.



THE 1955 winner, Tactician, will be one of New Zealand's representatives.

—Courtesy "Trotting Life."

INTER-DOMINION PACING CHAMPIONSHIP

FEATURE ARTICLE

By Ray Connelly

All roads will lead to the Harold Park Raceway this month as the N.S.W. Trotting Club for the second time in its history will conduct the Inter-Dominion Pacing Championship. It will be almost four years to the day on February 11, the opening date of this year's fixture, since the memorable first night's racing in 1952 when the Club, in its Jubilee year, conducted the eleventh Inter-Dominion Championship. The final night drew a record of 38,090. They saw a great horse, Avian Derby, win the final dramatically.

Prize money has been increased so that it will be £36,500; renovations have been made to accommodate an all time record crowd, and the best pacers in Australasia, some of them in world class, will battle it out for supremacy and the honour of being acclaimed the predominant performer in trotting by winning the 1956 Inter-Dominion.

BEHIND the organisation of the N.S.W. Trotting Club Inter-Dominion Pacing Championship Carnival at Harold Park raceway in February are three members of Tattersall's Club: N.S.W. Trotting Club President, Alton Cusick; Vice-President, J. R. (Jimmy) Reeves, and the Inter-Dominion Organiser, Asher Joel.

TROTTING in N.S.W. had a humble beginning at the start of the century, as only match races were run on an unorganised scale. These races were provided by a few owners who wished to test their horses' ability against the best opposition offering and they were wil-

ling to support their charge for large sums of money. Most of the events took place in a busy part of the city near the Moore Park area, but the enthusiasts, after a time, had to find another venue. Police felt the races were endangering the safety of the populace, as the horses were being driven at high speeds along some of Sydney's main thoroughfares.

Following the objection, 33 of the keenest followers of the sport had preliminary discussions in 1902 and decided to launch a club. A sum of £19/7/9 was raised at the meeting by each person contributing 2/6 toward the fund, but many generous donations were made. The

largest of ten guineas came from the late J. A. Buckland.

On June 11 the club was constituted formally with a membership of 22. Each paid a subscription of £2/2/-. The initial meeting was held on November 19, five events being on the programme. The site for the fixture was Harold Park originally called Lilly Bridge.

Prize money for the meeting amounted to 99 sovereigns, 30 of them being distributed for the main race. Two meetings were held at Forest Lodge, after which racing was held at the old Kensington pony track until the middle of 1904. Programmes were then resumed at the original track and have been held there ever since. In 1929 the track became known as Harold Park.

TROTTING struggled for existence at times for almost 20 years until the night of October 1, 1949 when racing under the lights came into being.

From that historic night the light harness sport has become firmly established in Sydney. It climaxed its popularity in February, 1952, when the N.S.W. Trotting Club conducted the first Inter-Dominion Championship meeting ever to be held in Syd-Next Page

GLAMOR HORSES STRIVE FOR RICH PRIZES

Mighty Progress Made By Popular Sport

ney. That was a memorable occasion as it also marked the Club's Jubilee year.

The first Inter-Dominion Pacing Championship was held in February, 1936, at Perth. The championships were an annual event until 1940 when World War II forced a halt. The year 1947 marked the return of the fixture, since that time the championships have increased in popularity and prizemoney.

Back to 1935

The first conference, dealing with the Inter-Dominion, was held in Sydney in 1935 with trotting interests from all States as well as New Zealand represented. The aim of the 1935 conference was to bring the best pacers and trotters in Australasia together, an idea which was to establish trotting as one of the major sporting industries in Australia in a few short years.

What great names adorn the Inter-Dominion roll of honour as winners of the predominant event in the light harness sport. A Globe Derby mare, Evicus, driven by Fred Holmes, won the first Championship, the first of three mares to be victorious. The others were Parisienne, who was successful at the 1938 fixture held in Christchurch (N.Z.). while Bandbox was declared winner at Perth in 1947, one of the four years when the points system decided the winning horse.

THIS system began with the Championship itself in 1936, when Logan Derby actually won the final. Evicus, however, had earned the greatest number of points and was acclaimed the winner of the Championship proper. A similar incident occurred in 1938, the second occasion when points decided the ultimate victor. Pot Luck won the final, but Parisienne gained the prize by virtue of the points she had earned on her way to the final.

The year 1940 saw Grand Mogul successful in the final, but Logan Derby was winner on points earned. The last time points were used as a medium of finding the champion was in 1947, but on this occasion that grand mare, Bandbox, put the issue beyond all doubt by winning the final as well as earning

the greatest number of points.

There are still many who advocate for the retention of the points scoring system. They base their argument on the fact that if a horse is good enough to gain the greatest number of points on its overall performances, it should be regarded as the best pacer, irrespective of its placing in the final.

The most recent illustration of this was in 1953 at Perth, when the illustrious Ribands won all his heats only to go down to the aged marvel, Captain Sandy, in the final. By his performances Ribands proved he was the outstanding pacer in the Dominion, but due to his defeat in the final, his name does not appear as the winner of the greatest event in trotting.

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VAN HALL, who went close to Riband's 11³/₄ furlongs record, should test the Championship field. —Courtesy "Trotting Life."

CAPTAIN SANDY'S RECORD

Riband's conqueror, Captain Sandy, made history in the 1953 final as he then became the first and only horse ever to win two Inter-Dominion finals. In 1950 the "Captain," as he is affectionately called, won in Melbourne but unfortunately he will not take his place in this year's event as he is enjoying a lengthy spell. Captain Sandy also holds the distinction of being greatest stake winning pacer in history, his winnings exceeding £48,000.

Thrilling Finish

Other winners of the Championship are Dan's Son, who won in a thrilling finish by a head with two heads separating the three who finished behind him. The unlucky runner was the rather small Lawn Derby, who galloped off the mark to lose considerable ground, but finished the closest of possible 1939 was Springfield fourths. Globe's year, driven by W. A. This horse is a pro-O'Shea. lific sire, many of his progeny proving fine performers who have won considerable prizemoney. Emilous won in 1948; Single Direct the following year, his driver being E. N. Kennerlev. Vedette was first past the post in 1951. Avian Derby won a dramatic final at Harold Park 12 months later. Tennessee Sky led the field at Adelaide in 1954, while the brilliant Tactician won last year.

THERE have been many unlucky performers in the great race, prominent amongst them being Recovered, who was second to Avian Derby in 1952 and second to Tennessee Sky two years later. The gallant Ribands, regarded as the best pacer of recent times, made three attempts to win the coveted event. It eluded him even though he

holds the mile record against time, 1.58-7/10, as well as other outstanding race records.

Springfield Globe has a close link with the race. Apart from winning it in 1939, he sired last year's victor, Tactician, regarded as a definite threat in this year's event.

Included in the entries are three former winners in Vedette, Avian Derby and Tactician, as well as two current world record holders from New Zealand, Caduceus, who has the 1½ miles record from a standing start to his credit, and that grand mare, Thelma Globe, who has recorded the fastest time in the world from a standing start over a distance of 1¼ miles.

Impressive Line-Up

Forty nominations have been

received from States outside N.S.W., while 13 have been nominated from N.Z.

S.A. Pacer

Illawarra Wrack, from South Australia, is rated Australia's best pacer. He has had experience at Harold Park, having won in two out of three starts at the track in top class company. However, apart from the N.Z. contingent, he will have stern opposition from some of the finest young horses ever to race in this State, including Van Hall, Set Point, Mineral Spring and First Variety.

To this impressive list of contenders must be added the names of the older performers, Active Ayr—the grey flash—Young Wexford, Springfield Guy and Uncle Joe. Some of those mentioned are suspect as starters but, if possible, connections will have them at the post on the night in question.



AMERICAN trotting sire, Adios (15 years) sold recently for half a million dollars, world record price for horse of that type.

—Courtesy "Trotting Life."

STORY OF THE STAWELL GIFT

In the 1850's a rich gold discovery turned a quiet, slumbering sheep station near the foot of Victoria's Grampian Mountains into a lusty, brawling gold town thronged by 50,000 avid prospectors. The sprawling collection of humpies, stores and grog shops was called Stawell. When the yellow metal began to peter out, however, the population departed in droves. The town was faced with extinction. A group of public-minded citizens wanted to keep Stawell on the map They organised an annual professional footrace. It was another gold mine.

EARLY 80 years later Stawell still flourishes in a rich agricultural centre, with a name that is famous the world over because of the footrace. Although not the richest footrace -Bendigo has its annual Thousand—the Stawell Gift is unquestionably the world's greatest and best known. Up to 30,000 people flock to Stawell every Easter to see it run and give the town's business people a special "gold rush" of their own.

As many as a thousand athletes, including overseas representatives, compete in Stawell's annual sports meeting, of which the renowned Gift is the principal event. In bets with the 40 or 50 bookmakers who field at Stawell each year, winners of the Gift sometimes collect as much as £5,000 apart from the prizemoney. Recognised world professional champions in Postle. Donaldson, Banner and others have all raced for the pot of gold that awaits winners of the Stawell Gift.

The competition is stiff. In 1906 the immortal Jack Donaldson, generally recognised as the fastest sprinter of all time, was beaten; yet two years later, in South Africa, he ran 100 yards

in time only a little outside the present world amateur record.

Almost no race held since 1878 has been free of controversy, threats of legal action and rumours of dope-taking, ring-ins and foul play of some kind. In the 1879 Gift the judges, mindful of the uproar at their placings the previous year, declared a dead-heat between E. S. Grose and H. Broughen, who ran under the name of Ray. They ordered a run off between the pair.

THE run-off resulted in a bitter feud between Grose and Broughen that lasted until Grose's death 57 years later. Grose jumped out at the start like a meteor, so fast that Broughen claimed he had beaten the gun. He made no attempt to race, believing his rival would be recalled. Grose literally "walked in." Officials rejected the assertion that Grose had jumped early and gave him the Lifelong bickering followed between the two men followed.

In 1933 Cyril Heath, of Bailieston, was fancied by loyal supporters and backed to win a small fortune.

The Stawell Gift is always conducted with heats on Easter Saturday and the final on Monday.

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LES STREETE SENSATION

The first race after the war in 1946 was uneventful. The next year, however, saw a "boil-over" as sensational as anything in the eventful history of the race. Five men crossed the finishing line in the final almost as one. A shout went up when an automatic device signalled Les Streete, a Lismore hairdresser, as the winner. With thousands of pounds from bets seemingly theirs, Streete and his trainer embraced jubilantly. Then came the announcement that there had been a mistake. The judges' verdict of the result was a dead-heat between Arthur Martin and Doug Gardner. With Martin quoted at 25/1 before the race, it was the biggest Stawell "boil-over" for years. But the last was not heard of the 1947 Stawell Gift. Many people on the ground still considered that the actual winner was Les Streete, whose name had first been signalled but was placed last. This view was strengthened by films of the race and a photo-finish which Streete's followers obtained. They contemplated legal action, but dropped the idea because of a new rule they had accepted with all the other entrants. It was that all runners must accept the judges' decision as final and was introduced to avert expensive litigation which could leave the club broke as it did in 1893.

CRICKET AS SHE IS SPOKE

THE INTER-PART Cricket Competition was being held at F.N.D. and New Entry School was engaged against Stokers. Batting first, the Stokers made 127 and the N.E.S. went in full of hope. The hope faded away as wickets fell rapidly, due in some degree to the belief of the voluntary umpires that loud appeals deserved assent (reports "The White Ensign").

At last, with the score of 8 for 66, the N.E.S. team realised that the only thing to do now was to play for a draw, and as O. D. Piley went out to the wicket, many voices impressed this fact upon him. O. D. Piley had never before played in a match and was ignorant of cricket procedure, so when he arrived at the wicket, he stood ready to bat and looked fixedly at the bowler. This was no good to his team mates. "Take Block, Piley," they called out, "take your time."

Piley did know what taking block meant, so he went through the right drill, taking plenty of time, then stood up for the ball—the last ball of the over. It was off the wicket and Piley made a mighty swing, which so frightened the 'keeper that he missed the ball. Piley watched the ball speed away till the crowd called "Run, Piley," and he turned and ran to add one bye to the score.

The field changed, and Piley stood ready to face the new bowler. "Waste time, Piley," yelled the N.E.S. team. "Take block and look around the field." So Piley stood up straight and turned his bat sideways for the umpire to give him centre.

The Umpire, however, was not to be overawed.

"No you don't, Piley," he said.
"you've already had block. I
saw you get it at the other end."

STAWELL GIFT

Heath, a dark horse, won his heat easily. His price dropped to an almost unbackable quote, as he was "a certainty."

This did not suit a brazen betting clique, who waylaid him in Central Park on the Sunday. Vicious kicks were aimed at his ankles to cripple him, but he struggled furiously, yelled for help and got away unharmed.

Despite the ordeal Heath effortlessly won the final on the Monday. Police failed to trace his assailants.

JACK Donaldson was only a slim, fleet-footed youngster of 20 when he appeared at Stawell in 1906, and inexperience cost him victory. He "walked in" with his heat and semi-final and was pronounced a certainty for the final. To the bookmakers he represented a colossal liability. They were offering almost fantastic odds about the other runners in vain attempts to balance their books.

The "bookies" raised a concerted cheer of fresh hope when the over-anxious Donaldson "broke" at the start and was penalised a yard. That yard made all the difference. Donaldson went down by inches to E. W. Thompson, of Victoria, and gone was his chance of winning at Stawell.

Dave Strickland, who won in 1900 after surviving a protest, is the father of present-day Olympic star Shirley Strickland. Tim Banner, another great runner, collected at Stawell in 1925 and then went on to win the world professional championship at Liverpool, in Egland.—Abridged from "Daily Mirror" special feature article.

The art of acceptance is the art of making someone who has just done you a small favour wish that he might have done you a greater one.

ALL THE QUEEN'S HORSES

THE scene was Epsom, Derby Day, 1953, and the Queen and her twenty-six guests were crowded into the red-carpeted Royal Box, with its pink and Hopes had blue hydrangeas. been high for a royal victory for the Queen's colt Aureole in that vear's Coronation Derby, but Gordon Richards had flashed past the winning post first on Pinza—the only time he ever won the race in his long career. Pleased for him though she was, the Queen was still hiding her disappointment at losing when, cap in hand, and with an embarrassed look on his face, the little jockey arrived for the customary congratulations.

"Thank you, Ma'am," he said quietly, in answer to her good wishes. "I'm sorry I beat you, though."

"Never mind, Mr. Richards, we won't put you in the Tower this time," the Queen said.

Win or lose, the Queen loves racing with an intensity that women only rarely bring to their hobbies. And what a success she makes of it! Last year her horses carried her red, gold and purple colours to victory nineteen times.

You are only young once. After that you have to think up some other excuse.

DAWN OF CANBERRA

Canberra had a peaceful birth, but conflict arose over its name, and spread later to its site. Joshua John Moore established a station on the banks of the Molonglo in 1823, and described it, with no indication of preference, as Canberry and Cambury, to which surveyors, when they dropped along to set up boundaries, added Canbury. A Polish naturalist said in 1834 that the correct name was Kembery, his authority being local aborigines who soon faded out of the picture.

SURVEYOR-GENERAL Sir Thomas Mitchell, who disliked giving Australian places English names, declared the name to be Canberra, and so it was first spelt officially in 1857.

The Molonglo flowed on serenely until interpretation of Sec. 125 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth came up for consideration. It applied to the seat of the Government of the Commonwealth, which had to be 100 miles from Sydney. It looked a simple enough matter, but a commission appointed by a conference of Premiers in 1899 recommended the vicinity of Bombala or Eden, Orange and Yass, the two first of which were outside the constitutional distance from Sydney.

In January, 1903, the Federal Government appointed a Royal Commission which recommended nine sites in the following order of preference: Albury, Tumut, Orange, Lyndhurst, Armidale, Bathurst, Lake George, Bombala and Dalgety. A ballot of members of the House of Representatives selected Tumut, and a bill was passed and sent on to the Senate for approval.

The Senate was not in approving mood, and substituted Bombala, at which the Government reached for the services of two surveyors and commis-

sioned them to inspect the rival sites. On their report the Government passed a Seat of Government Act on August 15, 1904, which established the capital between Bombala and Dalgety on the Snowy River on an area of 900 square miles with an outlet to the sea.

THIS decision stirred Sydney, and Premier Carruthers led his followers into battle on five issues, the first of which was that the Government of New South Wales would grant no 900 square miles in any part of the State to the prospective city upstart, particularly as the Commonwealth Seat of Government Act breached the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

The deadlock created by these developments lasted for three vears until, in 1903, several N.S.W. members of the House of Representatives while fishing along the tranquil Molonglo, were struck by the suitability of the serene beauty of Canberra for the "display of fine architecture and town planning." This caused a defection from the Dalgetyites, and swung the affections of others to adjacent but hitherto unwanted Yass. It also stirred Parliament into activity, in the form of a bill which was introduced on September 22, 1907, to "determine

more definitely the seat of Government in the neighbourhood of Dalgety."

Brainwave

This stirred New South Wales to new fury to build up opposition to Dalgety, and while this move was signally successful, haters of Dalgety could not be marshalled into a camp of sufficient power to force acceptance of any other site.

Then came the brainwave. The bill was amended by tossing out Dalgety and substituting for it Yass-Canberra, and the Act received Royal Assent on December 14, 1908. It was left to surveyors to prune Yass out of the site, and Parliament subsequently pruned it out of the name, so that on January 1, 1910, the last pegs were driven to make the site of Canberra, the capital city of the Commonwealth of Australia.

UMBRELLA

He told me that when sober he frequently lost umbrellas, but when drunk never. He made a special point of retaining his umbrella then in his hand; it became his chief concern in life. Once he got badly drunk at Maxim's. He just had sense enough to take a cab to the rooms of a mistress he had then. She received him and undressed him and put him to bed. But he would not "leave go" of his umbrella during the process. He passed it from hand to hand as she divested him of his coat, waistcoat and shirt, and he took it to bed. And he said: "She became very angry with that umbrella." - Arnold Bennett, "Journal", 1904.

CARNERA K.O. BROUGHT DEATH ON DELIVERY

Follows the tragic story of a naturally endowed fighter who was put in the shambles too early and too often; one of many black chapters in the history of the ring due to gainsters getting control of one who knew nothing more than how to fight.

NO fighting sailor came nearer to winning the heavy-weight championship of the world than Ernie Schaaf. He was big enough, strong enough and knew his boxing. But he was rushed along too quickly by those anxious to see him get to the top—and he paid the supreme penalty for their folly.

Schaaf's parents did not want him to be a fighter, so he joined the Navy. Aboard ship he had ample chances to use the gloves and after his first trip came home to win the All-Services championships in the light-heavyweight class. But knocking out sailors was different from meeting seasoned scrappers, and Schaaf would have become just another battler had not Jack Sharkey, the heavyweight champion, become interested in him.

Schaaf responded willingly enough and was soon ready to take up his appointed role in the champion's stable. Sharkey and Buckley wanted to hang on to the title for as long as possible. It was Ernie's job to fend off all dangerous challengers.

From the wide open spaces of the West came a newcomer to the heavyweight ranks. A tough, fight-loving cattle-dealer's son by the name of Max Baer.

Schaaf had outpointed Baer when both were novices; there seemed no reason why he couldn't do it again. That's what they thought. But they overlooked the fact that Baer

had improved a good deal since then; moreover, that Schaaf had taken part in 24 contests in a matter of 20 months and each one had been tougher than the one before it.

The Last Round

Baer realised when they came up for the last round that only a knockout would save him from defeat. With only two seconds to go Baer let loose a left hook that connected solidly to the jaw. A smashing right followed, then as Schaaf started to buckle at



the knees, Maxie tossed in a left hook to the body for luck.

Ernie crumpled to the canvas, then rolled over on to his back. He showed no sign of stirring, and at the count of "two" the bell clanged to end the contest and rob Baer of a knockout win. There was great anxiety all round as the medical man tried hard to restore Ernie to consciousness. Finally he shuddered and opened his eyes, and eventually was sufficiently recovered to go to his dressing-room.

Those behind Primo Carnera were pushing their man forward for a title chance. Sharkey had outpointed the big Italian before winning the championship, but for all that the giant was considered a distinct menace.

So once more Ernie had to step into the breach. He met Carnera in Madison Square Garden, New York, on February 10, 1933. It was his last fight.

Carnera had a weight advantage of four stone, and at 6 ft. 7 in. simply towered over his opponent. Primo suddenly cut loose and, with a series of left and right clumps to the head, sent Schaaf reeling across the ring. No sooner had he come up for the next round and Carnera caught him again.

The New Jersey fighter hardly seemed to know what he was doing as he back-pedalled.

They sparred around the ring, then Carnera caught his man with a powerful right uppercut, followed with another, then banged in a weightly left hook to the side of the head. Schaaf went down.

With difficulty he was got to the dressing-room where twenty minutes of respiratory work failed to return him to consciousness.

Next day dawned with Schaaf still in oblivion. Later in the day an operation was performed in the hope of saving Schaaf's life, but Ernie was beyond recall and died without gaining consciousness.

The medical examiner's report following the autopsy declared that the deceased boxer had entered the ring with a brain ailment that could not have been detected by the doctor who gave the usual physical examination before the contest.

HISTORY OF THE ARAB HORSE

In a previous issue some of the historic background of the Arab horse was given. Other pure Oriental strains were bred in the ancient Turkish Empire (the Turks) and in North Africa (the Barbs), and these strains are also still pure to-day. They were derived from the Arabs, or from the same ancestors as the Arabs.

THE fame of the Arab spread spread in time across the world. The Moors took the pure Arab strain, as well as the Barbs and other breeds of Oriental descent, into Spain, and the Spaniards later carried the blood to America.

The pure Arab has a black skin, whatever its hair colouring may be. They are all "truecoloured"—piebalds and skewbalds do not occur in the pure strains. The commonest colour is bay; blacks are rare, and highly prized; chestnuts are reputed to be the speediest; greys are born black, or nearly so, and turn lighter in colour as they grow older.

Arabs were imported into England several hundreds of years ago.

James I maintained a stud of racing horses, and, in order to improve his Arab strains, took over six Arabs imported from Arabia by Sir Thomas Esmond. Charles I is, however, credited with having given the chief stimulus to the breeding of what is now known as the English Thoroughbred, the Arab's most distinguished descendant.

Charles sent his Master of the Horse, Sir John Fenwick, to the Levant to purchase pure Oriental stock—"the best he could find." Sir John returned with Arabs, Barbs, and Turks, both stallions and mares.

The Stud Book

The first volume of the General Stud Book was published in 1781. It went back over 200 years and included 174 Oriental sires and 387 mares. In later revisions all but 78 of the original mares were excluded, and only three of the stallions survived to deep their descent intact to the present day.

Of these, the Byerly Turk was imported by Captain Byerly

during the reign of William of Orange; the Darley Arabian was imported by a Mr. Darley during the reign of Queen Anne; and the Godolphin Arabian, or Barb, was owned by the Earl of Godolphin.

A Mr. Coke, of Norfolk, discovered the Godolphin in Paris, where it had been employed drawing a water cart. Mr. Coke was able to trace its noble ancestry.

These, then, were the Oriental sires who founded the modern race of English Thoroughbreds.

Pure Arabs have been imported into England, Australia, and other countries and have

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STORY OF THE ARAB

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founded pure Arab studs in those lands.

Crosses in modern times between pure Arabs, either imported or bred in England, with English Thoroughbreds—who although themselves of Oriental descent are now a distinct race—have produced another recognised strain, known as English Arabs, or Anglo-Arabs.

PURE Arabs are used as highclass riding horses. The Anglo-Arab is an exceptionally fine jumper and is also much in demand as a cavalry horse.

Neither is eligible to race. In fact, since 1781 no new Arabian blood has been added to the modern racehorse.

Up to 1921 pure-bred Arabs, whether imported or bred in England, were eligible for entry into a separate section of the

General Stud Book. Many have already bred with English thoroughbreds.

Arabs' Descendants

This Stud Book entry does not entitle either the Arab or its progeny to race, but breeders expect that some time in the future—perhaps in 50 or 100 years—the descendants of these Arabs will be accepted for registration and allowed to race.

This is in effect building up a bank of fresh Arab blood for future infusion into our racing stock.

However, since 1921 the keepers of the Stud Book have decided to admit no more Arabs into the book unless they can be traced back to a strain already accepted in earlier volumes of the book.

Unless the Queen's horses fulfil this condition they will not be eligible for entry into the General Stud Book.

Nonetheless they are aristocrats—with a lineage longer than any living monarch's.

SNORERS

Exploring snorers: The steady type, who goes hrrumph-whah, hrrumph-whah all night long is probably easier to live with. You can get used to him, as you can get used to the little lady who makes noises like a sewing machine. But the fellow who sleeps quietly except for an occasional, soul-shaking kraangh in the dead stillness is hard, mighty hard, to take. So is the one who varies his steady two-beat cadence with a great sudden skruzpth.

Woman to friends: "Ed's secretary has everything—no looks, no figure, no personality."

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SOMETHING ABOUT BULLS

By Teodoro Deningo

When it comes to putting the darbolas (handcuffs to youse nitwits) on the fast buck, why nobody beats Jes (Call Me Handsome) Cortes. And when it comes to unflooding a Vat called 69, why there is nobody around who spots Jes for there is no blood in his veins, only the finest whisky. In fact at the time I met him at the Shellborne, he had enough joy juice in his stummick to convert Manila into Venice.

WE are chewing the fat of of course on bulls, bullfighters and beesom (money, my friends, money) for as everybody knows Jes is promoting the coming bullfights.

It is surprising that broads do not enter the conversation, for when Jes talks about beesom he also lugs in the goils. Except once of course when a coochie tomato enters the room and between her neckline and her hemline there is enough to make everybody cross-eyed.

As I am saying, Jes says after giving her several swivels, the coming bullfights here easily cleans 500,000 smackeroos. I promote fights and other sports promotion for a long time and if you remember it is I who promotes the Ceferino Garcia-Glen Lee world middleweight championship fight before the war, and the Joe Louis exhibition, too.

But, Jes says, nothing like the bullfights. It is the greatest thing that happens to Philippine sports and it is making everybody's eyes rise higher than a cat's back, in fact higher.

I am about to say that it also makes everybody commit calisthenics with his pocket in such a manner that when everybody repeats the calisthenics afterwards, they come across nothing except their fingers, when who comes in but Jose Rosa

Rodriguez, the Portuguese bull-fighter.

There is immediately an eruption of Spanish words and here I feel like an abandoned rutabaga for the only Spanish I understand is "vamos a comer."

But it seems Senor Rodriguez understands English some for he says when he shakes my hand "Glatt I mitt you." Usted, Usted, I commence but it seems I do not get beyond usted so I ask Jes to ask Senor Rodriguez whom he considers the three greatest bullfighters of all time.

Siempre Manolete, he says, despues Dominguin, y Litri. How about Arruza, the Mexican, I say. Here Senor Jose Rosa Rodriguez switches to English, and every word comes out like he is giving birth. Arruza, yes, he, Arruza, he wol-, he wol-, and here Rodriguez finally chooses Spanish and babbles something to Jes.

Joselito says Arruza is very good but not in a class with Manolete or Dominguin or Libri, Jes says.

Ask the Senor

Ask Senor Jose Rosa Rodriguez if the bulls that are coming are fierce and vicious and since it takes them such a long time coming here by boat maybe they are now fattened out and very friendly and are not chasing anybody any more, including Senor Rodriguez himself, and the other toreo Manolo Navarro.

Senor Rodriguez catches what I say in English and says to me like this: Ah, no, senor, the bulls they are very brafe, they keel you, they come from Antonio Vaz Monteiro, Robertos, and Lima Monteiro, the best bull—, the best bull—. Jes is quicker than twelve noon with an assist— the best bull ranches in Portugal.

My Ingleesh is not so goot, Rodriguez says, and he winks and says to me like this: Conoces tu chicas que hablan Castellano y que me pueden ensenar ingles?

Chicas? Que barbaridad! I wink back at Senor Rodriguez and say to him like this: Senor, no speeka da Spanish.

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GIFTS FOR "THE GESTAPO" AT CHRISTMASTIDE

LAST month's big double went to Trevor Barrell when he paddled home in the monthly Point Score and displaced Sid Sernack at the head of the ladder in the 1955/6 "Native Son" Point Score.

Hard luck for Trevor that he has lost a second off his handicap but our bet is that he will still be hard to push off the top rung. His win in the monthly series was an unusually easy one, by $4\frac{1}{2}$ points.

Frank Muller, in his first month's swimming after an indisposition, landed second place, with Geoff Shaw, who missed the last race, third.

The end of December was a hectic time with the annual Christmas scramble taking pride of place.

Four teams of eight took the starting board and a fluctuating race saw Leigh Bowes' team take the honors from Geoff Laforest's team with Bill Kendall's eight next best.

Members of the first two teams won their prizes of Christmas cheer without swimming again but the other 16 had to compete for theirs in the traditional six times across consolation handicap. In this, a popular winner was limit man George Goldie. He just lasted long enough to beat Bill Phillips, always a tough proposition, and Neil Barrell. Short markers Bill Kendall, Carl Phillips and Malcolm Fuller were next to finish.

Nice Gesture

After the presentation of Christmas cheer to all and a Christmas greeting by Secretary

Jack Dexter a surprise to the club officials was sprung when that man of few words, Fred Daly, presented Sam Block, John Gunton and Jack Dexter with a mantel radio apiece as a measure of appreciation from Swimming Club members and Pool habitues.

Unfortunately John Gunton was absent but Sam and Jack did the honours for him. Members can be assured that there were no happier men during the Christmas season than the three members of the "Gestapo". It was a wonderful gesture by sterling sportsmen.

Donations

Thanks are given by the Swimming Club to those whose donations made possible the success of the Christmas Scramble: J. Gunton, R. Harris, M. Fuller, G. Eastment, A. Me-Camley, P. Godhard, N. E. Penfold, V. Thicknesse, S. Murray, R. O. Cummings, F. Muller, V. W. Kirwan. Richards. Stewart, G. Goldie, J. Buckle, S. Lorking, Leo Stevens, P. J. Crenan, E. E. Davis, Don Wilson, Ken Williams, G. Fienberg, Ken Ranger, S. Sernack, E. Vandenberg, E. A. Davis, A. G. Conolly, J. Muir, R. Corrick, L. Bloom, C. Emanuel, C. Woodfield, K. Francis, C. Hoole, I. Stanford, S. Peters and Judge A. E. Rainbow.

After a break of a couple of weeks or so to allow recuperation after the festive season the swimmers are in action again. Just to show appreciation for the respite. Trevor Barrell, Bob Adams, Leigh Bowes and Bill Kendall performed so well that Next Page





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BILL KENDALL'S SWIM

the handicapper docked them a second each.

Bill Kendall's effort of 18.5 secs. was a brilliant one. Same may be said of Leigh Bowes who swam 20.8 secs.

Fred Harvie marked his return after the holiday by being so fractious at the barrier that he was "blown" for going too soon.

Bob Adams made his first appearance for some time and won a heat. Ken Fidden, better known in the football world, had his first race for an unplaced effort. Ken will be with them soon and the Club welcomes him.

Pleasing reappearance in races after a long absence was that of Dr. Ern. Smithers. He swam his time trial after the first heat and raced into third place in the eight. Sussex Inlet has put him in rare form.

Results

December 20: 40 yards Brace Relay Handicap:—G. Eastment and M. Fuller (24) 1, R. Corrick and G. Laforest (25) 2, F. Muller and A. Allsop (24) 3. Time 19.2 secs.

December 22: 320 yards Christmas Scramble Teams Handicap:—No. 3 Team (F. L. Bowes, J. Shaffran, F. Muller, F. M. Daly, J. Harris, H. E. Davis, J. O. Dexter, G. Boulton) 1, No. 2 Team (G. Laforest, capt.) 2, No. 1 Team (W. Kendall, capt.) 3, No. 4 Team (C. B. Phillips, capt.) 4.

Six Times Across Consolation Handicap—G. Goldie (37) 1, W. B. Phillips (23) 2, N. Barrell (23) 3, W. Kendall (20) 4, C. B. Phillips (21) 5, M. Fuller (21) 6.

January 10: 40 yards Handicap:—1st Division Final — S. Sernack (24) 1, Dr. C. L. Bear (25) 2, S. Murray (25) 3. Time 23.5 secs. 2nd Division Final—T. Barrell (26) 1, F. L. Bowes

(22) 2, G. Boulton (24) 3. Time 25 secs.

December-January Point Score

Series resulted:—T. Barrell 25½, 1; F. Muller 21, 2; G. Shaw 19½, 3; Dr. C. L. Bear and G. Laforest 19, 4; F. L. Bowes 18½, 6; R. Corrick 18, 7; N. Barrell and P. Lindsay 17, 8; G. Eastment 16, 10; C. Godhard and J. O. Dexter 15½, 11; G. Goldie and S. Sernack 15, 13.

"Native Son" Point Score

Leaders in this series, for all points scored during the season, were, at January 12:—T. Barrell 64, S. Sernack 57, R. Corrick 55, F. L. Bowes 54½, P. Lindsay 53½, G. Eastment 53, C. Godhard 51, Dr. C. L. Bear and G. Laforest 50, H. Herman 46, J. O. Dexter 45½, S. Murray 44, A. Allsop 43, G. Shaw and H. E. Davis 41½, C. Bowes 41, N. Barrell and F. Harvie 39½, G.

DEAD-HEATS

FOLLOWING reference to triple dead-heats a correspondent, H. Davidson, of Plowman Street, North Bondi, recalled to Sydney "Daily Tele-

graph" some unusual incidents. He saw a dead-heat between Bay Art and Cir Ross at Rockhampton in 1922 run off twice with the same result. At West Maitland in 1882 he saw Hesperian and Queensbury run three dead-heats before the owners divided. Both races were over sprint distances so it did not harm the horses. But history contains an instance of a second run-off after two dead-heats in the 1872 Australian Cup $(2\frac{1}{4}m.).$ Saladin, an horse, won the second decider, beating a three-year-old, Flying Dutchman.

Boulton and R. Harris 37½, J. Shaffran 37, A. McCainley 36, G. Goldie 35, R. Dowling 33, M. Sellen 30.

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WITH THE BOWLERS

HOLIDAYS have interfered with our programme, and competitions were suspended until mid-January. During the break a number of members visited interstate greens. Ken Williams is making an inspection of clubs around Perth, while Ken Ranger is investigating the method adopted by selectors in Tasmania.

The first round of Tattersall's knockout competition should be completed this month. Aleck Buckle is grateful to the competitors for their co-operation.

Congratulations to Don Passmore on being selected to represent Double Bay in No. 1 Pennants. Don has been ploying bowls a short while and is regarded as one of the most improved players in the game.

Mel Watson is a regular with Tattersall's on Thursdays. He was seen doing battle with Swannie Schwarz recently.

Alan Kippax is another bowler soon to leave for an extended tour overseas.

Frank Kreiger, off the sick list, will soon be seen on the greens. Meantime Arch Price has been keeping the flag flying and is now recognised skipper.

The "Chief" is happy. He has found a club to entertain him on Friday afternoons, and sent a wire post-haste to Tasmania with gratifying results.

From Palm Beach comes news of big game fisherman Alan Turner. For those doubting people, Alan does not use a set line.

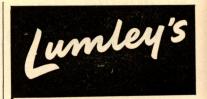
HANDBALL NOTES

FIRST round of the "Amounis Trophy" has been completed. Bruce Partridge beat Col Chatterton; Neil Barrell beat Andy McGill: Gordon Boulton beat Zade Lazarus; Bill Kirwan beat Trevor Barrell; George McGilvray beat Bruce Chiene; Eric Thompson beat Harry Castle; Viv Thicknesse beat Bill Phillips; Lee Bowes beat Arthur McCamley; Fred Harvie beat John Brice; Eddie Davis beat Cuth Godhard: George Goldie beat John Shaffran; Geoff Eastment beat Col Bowes; Clarrie Woodfield beat Allan Stewart; Ron Spencer beat Frank Muller; Peter Lindsay beat Fred Daly; John Dexter beat Geoff Laforest; Peter Williams beat Lou Silk; Malcolm Fuller beat Bob Adams; Ken Francis beat M. Sellen.

Highlights were the victories of Neil Barrell over Andy Mc-Gill 47-45, Ken Francis over M. Sellen 41-30, John Dexter over Geoff Laforest 41-35, and George Goldie over John Shaffran 41-29. The event will now be divided into two halves: winners and losers.

Newcomer to handball is R. O. Cummings. He is also a race-horse owner and we are happy to report that his horse "Black Desmond" has given some thrills lately with wins at Kembla Grange and two placings at Rosehill.

TOM LAWTON, one of the greatest R.U. five-eighths, was in Rhodes Scholar at Oxford where he won his football blue. He was beaten for five-eighth in the English international XV by one Kilminster on the grounds that an English-born player should have preference.



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Sam Langford-Fighter

DEATH at 76 in the U.S. of Sam Langford, blind and beggared, is a startling commentary on life's uncertainty and fortune's fickle switches.

One time he was the only challenger mighty Jack Johnson feared. Although more of a heavy middleweight than a heavyweight, and handicapped by lack of height, Langford packed a punch of sledge-hammerforce. His hardest punches travelled no more than 12 inches and were delivered with perfect timing.

Langford was beaten in his first Sydney fight with Sam Mc-Vea and "Snowy" Baker awarded a points decision, rightly, although a section of the crowd thought otherwise.

All McVea ventured was to flip a left and fall into a clinch. So it went on without Langford being able to land a counter, or bother about the flicking. By the 20th round his right eye was closed and he carried a lump as big as an egg.

Cherchez la Femme

The two black Sams remained friends out of the ring until McVea's white wife, a beautiful blonde, was attracted to Langford. At the second meeting of the pair Langford posted McVea into an easy K.O.

Just what Langford at his best would have done to the present crop of heavies including Rocky Marciano, goes without saying.

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OLYMPIC GAMES

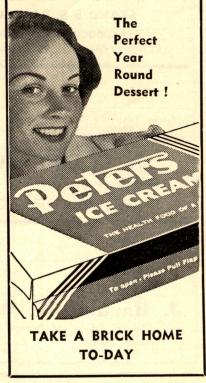
RECORD entry of nations for the 1956 Olympic Games is assured, including those from China and Lebanon. Officials with Hungarian runners said that Hungary would enter a team of 150.

Hundreds of women have been attracted by the glamour Olympic job of chauffeur to international Olympic officials and other high-ranking visitors to Melbourne during the Olympic Games. Applications came mainly from Melbourne women, but also from distant parts of Australia. One application came from Fort Kox, Kentucky, U.S.A.

With interest in the Olympic Games growing fast, seat bookings have almost reached 400,000, but there are still about 800,000 tickets left to be booked. Box office receipts to date are £556,273. With 11 months to go bookings have been made by

23,735 interstate and overseas visitors. Another 3,081 in Victorian country districts have been booked. From these quotas, 63,200 seats have been booked by 5,732 intending visitors. New Zealanders head the list with 40,000 bookings by over 3,000 people. The United Kingdom is next with 1,186 intending visitors, while 600 Americans have booked.

The Italian National Olympic Committee will make a gift of special electrical equipment worth £1,500, for use in connection with the foil fencing com-Electrical apparatus petitions. is installed on the fencing strips to enable the judges to record touches in the foil and epee events. A double wire from the units passes through the fencers' sleeves to the weapon. contact at the tip of the epee flashes a light to signal a touch on the opponent's body.



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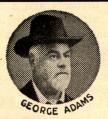
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Sydney	Turf Club Sat. (At Canterbury)	18
Sydney	Turf Club Sat. (At Rosehill)	25

MARCH

MAKCH	
Australian Jocky Club Sat. (At Warwick Farm)	4
Sydney Turf Club Wed. (At Canterbury)	7
Sydney Turf Club Sat. (At Canterbury)	10
Australian Jockey Club Sat. (At Warwick Farm)	17
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Sydney Turf Club Sat. (At Rosehill)	24
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OPEN RUGBY UNION PLAY

THE LIONS, title borne by the British R.U. team which toured South Africa in the latest season, turned on the open game, much to the satisfaction of the crowds.

London "Field" commentator wrote: "There is talk everywhere of the open game as though it were the open door to new Rugby triumphs, as it might well be.

"Before the tour was over, the Lions' example of free, imaginative play had begun to find a response among South African players.

"Its very popularity signifies relief from the frustrations of spoiling, defensive tactics which have marred play so much in recent years.

"Much of the difference between open and close Rugby lies in how that doctrine is interpreted. South African teams, and N.Z., have nearly always produced exceptionally strong packs of forwards, but have not generally used the advantage to develop an attacking game.

"When N.Z. sent a team to South Africa in 1949, the matches between them were largely dominated by close, dull play in which initiative rarely found a place."

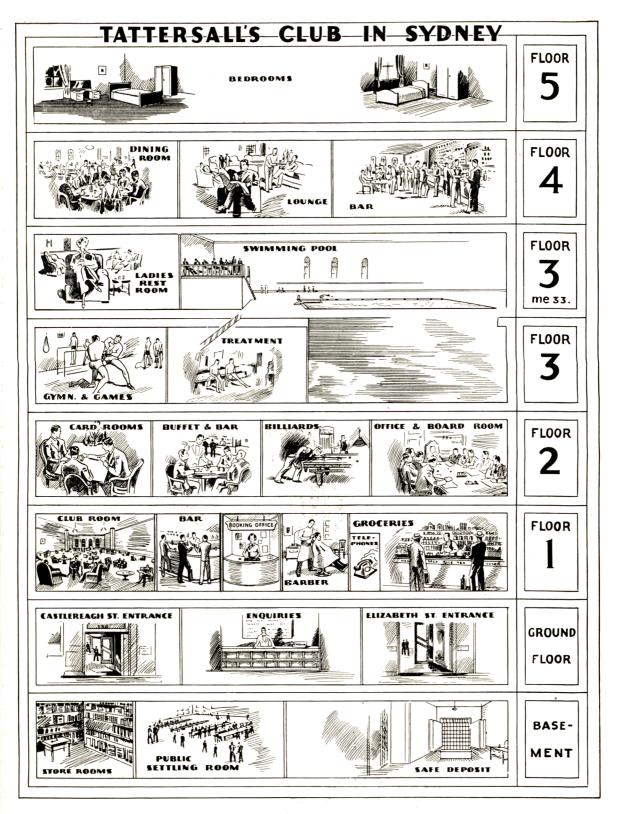
HANDSOME FELLOW

Achilles, sire of Troy (see page 7), was one of the most handsome individuals on the turf. He won £14,494 in stakes, most important success being in the A.J.C. Epsom Handicap and the All-Aged Stakes. Achilles' sire Ajax, a grand racehorse, won £40,276 in prizemoney. Whippet, dam of Troy, was got by Whirlaway (imp.) from Corbiere (imp.) by Le Phare.

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Whether or not such almost intolerable anxieties make for greater pleasure is a question which the spectator must decide for himself. He may resemble the small boy in the old Punch picture who, when asked if smoking does not make him feel sick, replies heroically, "Yes, but I like the feeling." Undoubtedly your true umbrellabiter does like it.





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